CHURCH MATTERS

The monthly newsletter of the Church of Ireland
United Parish of Whitehead & Islandmagee.

Here everyone matters

November 2025

ST. PATRICK'S
& ST. JOHN'S

Lest we Forget



Services & Readings for November

Sunday 2nd November - 4th before Advent - All Saints
8:30 a.m. Holy Communion One
10:30 a.m. & 12 noon Holy Communion Two
Epistle Reading - Ephesians 1:11-23; Gospel Reading Luke 6:20-31
Readers for first Lesson - Colin de Fleury / Ann Thompson
7:00 p.m. Compline
Weekday Readings: Romans 11 - 16; Psalms 1-7; Luke 14-16

Sunday 9th November - 3rd before Advent - Remembrance Sunday
8:30 a.m. Holy Communion One
10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer and Act of Remembrance - Note Time change so people can attend the Civic Act Of Remembrance at 10:50am
12 noon Morning Prayer and Act of Remembrance
Sunday Readings - Micah 4:3-5; Psalm 29:1-4, 9-10; Matthew 5:43-48
Readers for first Lesson - Trevor Peoples / Alan Hayward
2:30 a.m. MESSY CHURCH - Note the change of time due to Act of Remembrance on this Remembrance Sunday
7:00 p.m. Compline
Weekday Readings: Isaiah 5 - 8; Psalms 8-14; Matthew 4 - 6

Sunday 16th November - 2nd before Advent
8:30 a.m. Holy Communion One
10:30 a.m. & 12 noon Morning Prayer One
Sunday Readings - Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm - Song of Isaiah; Luke 21:5-19
Reader for the First Lesson- Jack McKinney/Joy Kerr
7:00 p.m. Compline
Weekday Readings: Isaiah 9-13; Psalms 15 - 21; Matthew 7:1 - 9:17

Sunday 23rd November- Sunday next before Advent - Stir up Sunday
8:30 a.m. Holy Communion One
10:30 a.m. & 12:00 noon. Family Service
Sunday Readings- Colossians 1:11-20
Readers for first Lesson - Rector
7:00 p.m. Compline
Weekday Readings: Isaiah 14, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24; Psalm 22-28; Matthew 9:18- 11:30

Advent Sunday starts the new Church year - All Sunday readings are from Year A (starting on BCP page 27)

Sunday 30th November - Advent 1

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion One
10:30 a.m. & 12 noon Morning Prayer Two
Epistle Reading - Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Matthew 24:36-44
Readers for First Lessons - Bobby Herron / Alan Hayward
7:00 p.m. Compline
Weekday Readings: Isaiah 1 - 4; Psalms 29 - 35; Matthew 12:1 - 13:23

Sunday 7th December - Advent 2

8:30 a.m. Holy Communion One
10:30 a.m. & 12 noon Holy Communion Two
Epistle Reading - Romans 15:4-13; Gospel Reading - Matthew 3:1-12
Readers for first Lesson - Scotty Heyes / Sarah Henderson
7:00 p.m. Compline
Weekday Readings: Isaiah 5-8; Psalms 36 - 42; Matthew 13:24 - 14:12

Sunday 14th December - Advent 3

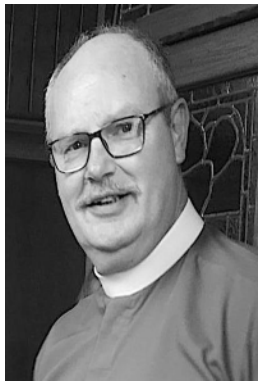
8:30 a.m. Holy Communion One
10:30 a.m. & 12 noon Morning Prayer Two
10:30 a.m. MESSY CHURCH in the Parochial Hall
7:00 p.m. Remembrance and Thanksgiving for those who have died

Messy Church

Dates for your diary
Starting at 10:30 a.m. in St Patrick's Parochial Hall,
Edward Road., Whitehead.
Come and join us for fun, games, crafts, singing and food as we discover what the Bible says to us.

Sunday 9th November at 2:30 p.m.
due to the Civic Remembrance Service in the morning.
Sunday 14th December at 10:30 a.m.

A message from our Rector



November is the season of Remembrance. We have All Hallows Even (Halloween) the night before the month starts and All Saints Day and All Souls Day on the first and second of the month. A time when we remember all the saints of the church with a special remembrance of those saints who shared our lives and whom we loved the most.

Then there is Remembrance Sunday followed by Armistice Day; when we remember all those who have died and suffered as a result of warfare, especially the First and Second World Wars and the conflict in out own province.

There are also lots, and I mean LOTS, of other days of remembrance and awareness in November (as it seems there are in every month now).

I have been thinking a lot about remembrance in the last few weeks. Mainly about the people I remember and give thanks for who were important to me in my life. People who have died and people who are still alive. But all people I remember and give thanks for.

Our remembrance, in November should be for all the saints - mindful that in the early Church and in the early days of Christianity in Ireland, all who were followers of Jesus Christ we called saints! We remember all who we have loved who are no longer with us - as we will do again on the second Sunday in December at our evening remembrance and thanks-giving service.

It is important to remember all these people, not just those who have died as a result of warfare and the defence of our country and its people. All who have died have helped to shape the world in which we live, and have helped to shape our lives, and have made us who we are. It is important to think of them and give thanks for the lives they lived and the way they influenced us and the world in which we live.

The best form of remembrance, the best memorial to those we loved, is to live the best life that we can. A life of faith in Jesus Christ; a life where we follow God's ways, showing love and care to others, living in charity with one another. If we live a good Christian life we will help make the world a better place for ourselves and all who come after us.

I wish you all every blessing in the name of Jesus Christ for this month and all the months to come as we strive to live as Jesus wants us to

Mark

St Patrick's Church Whitehead

The first reference to St Patrick's Church, Whitehead is found in a minute of the Select Vestry of a meeting held on November 10th 1904: "Mr Thornton proposed and Mr S.R. Bolton seconded: that the initiative steps be taken to build a church at Whitehead, and that a meeting of the parishioners be called to discuss the necessary steps for raising sufficient funds for that purpose."

In 1906, at a meeting of the Select Vestry, "Mr J.W. NetherlyJ.P., Proposed, and Mr J.T. Ward seconded, that as there was a credit balance of £53 10s. On the year's work, a sum of £50 be set aside as the nucleus of a fund for the proposed Church." From this point the interest began to grow, and funds soon accumulated.

At the big Bazaar held on 26th July, 1906, a sum of £1,352 13s. 11d. was realised. May I quote the "Introductory Statement" in connection with the Bazaar Report.

"It is pleasing to note what a few years have done for the Church of Ireland in Whiteheada. Whewn the present vicar, the Rev J.H. Bennet, came here in 1876, there was only **one** Church family (Coastguards excepted) living here. For these he had a Bible reading on Friday evening, which is now conducted by him as Litany service. Then he got permission from the Admiralty to hold a fortnightly Sunday service for the men, to which by permission, the visitors and residents were permitted to attend, and this was held up to December 1906. Soon the boat-house became too small, and we built the Parochial Hall at a cost of £650 in 1898. This we opened, free of debt, and now finding it not suitable, we propose (D.V.) building a church at a cost of over £3,000, which we trust will be of credit to ourselves, an ornament to Whitehead, and a small thankoffering to the Almighty for Hid blessing to us in the past."

Some facts of note:(depending on the standard calculations used either for inflation or buying power).
£1352 13s. 11d. in 1906 is equivalent to between £143,000 and £210,000 today in 2025.
The Parochial Hall (without the Boucher Room, the passage from the Church and the Stage), at £650 in 1898 is equivalent to £74,000 - £108,000 today.
St Patrick's cost £3591 to build in 1907, equivalent to between £376,000 and £553,000 today.

For your information!

The Select Vestry are hoping to take advantage of a grant being offered by the Northern Ireland Communities Infrastructure Fund to refurbish the Stage Room in the Parochial Hall. This grant is for buildings that are used by the community, as our Parochial Hall is. It will enable us, as a church community, and the wider community, to make better use of the Parochial Hall in years to come. Lots of other groups are also applying and we may not be successful as there is a limited amount of money available for this grant.

At present the Stage Room is not frequently used, either as a stage or as a room for meetings. It is not practical to use it for meetings if there is anything on in the main hall due to noise from one room being heard in the other.

Current legislation, and the body providing the grant, necessitate making the Stage Room accessible to those with mobility issues; which we should do any way. As there is no room in the hallway to build a suitable ramp it will be necessary to install an platform lift near the notice board at the bottom of the Stage Room steps. This will mean making a second entrance into the Stage Room at the top of the lift. The other thing will be to remove the old concertina fire curtains and replace them with an insulated and soundproofed wall. To have the possibility to still be able to use the Stage Room as a stage this wall will be of panels that will lock into place but be movable if the room is needed as a stage at any time.

The Select Vestry has been in contact with an architect to advise on these works and a preliminary price has been worked out as at least £43,000.

The grant we are applying for is for a proposed 95% of costs, with a maximum offered of £40,000 for a project with a maximum cost of £50,000. Our preliminary costings fall within the permissible figures to make us eligible for the grant. With insulation required for the Stage Room ceiling, and a modification to the heating system (as currently the Stage Room is only heated when the Main Hall is heated) we may, if successful, be able to get £50,000 worth of work done for a cost to the Parish of only £10,000.

The Select Vestry will keep us informed if we are successful in our grant application. All prayers for success will be greatly appreciated.



Remembrance Sunday

9th November

Act of Remembrance,

St Patricks, Whitehead 10.00 am.

followed by

Civic Act of Remembrance

at the Cenotaph, Whitehead at 10.50 am

Why Wear a Poppy

"Please wear a poppy," the lady said,
And held one forth, but I shook my head.
Then I stopped and watched as she offered them there,
And her face was old and lined with care;
But beneath the scars the years had made
There remained a smile that refused to fade.

A boy came whistling down the street,
Bouncing along on care-free feet.
His smile was full of joy and fun,
"Lady," said he, "may I have one?"
When she'd pinned it on, he turned to say;
"Why do we wear a poppy today?"

The lady smiled in her wistful way
And answered; "This is Remembrance Day.
And the poppy there is a symbol for
The gallant men who died in war.
And because they did, you and I are free –
That's why we wear a poppy, you see.

I had a boy about your size,
With golden hair and big blue eyes.
He loved to play and jump and shout,
Free as a bird, he would race about.
As the years went by, he learned and grew,
And became a man – as you will, too.

He was fine and strong, with a boyish smile,
But he'd seemed with us such a little while
When war broke out and he went away.
I still remember his face that day.
When he smiled at me and said, 'Goodbye,
I'll be back soon, Mum, please don't cry.'

But the war went on and he had to stay,
And all I could do was wait and pray.
His letters told of the awful fight
(I can see it still in my dreams at night),
With the tanks and guns and cruel barbed wire,
And the mines and bullets, the bombs and fire.

Till at last, at last, the war was won –
And that's why we wear a poppy, son."
The small boy turned as if to go,
Then said, "Thanks, lady, I'm glad to know.
That sure did sound like an awful fight
But your son – did he come back all right?"

A tear rolled down each faded cheek;
She shook her head, but didn't speak
I slunk away in a sort of shame,
And if you were me, you'd have done the same:
For our thanks, in giving, if oft delayed,
Though our freedom was bought – and thousands paid!

And so, when we see a poppy worn,
Let us reflect on the burden borne
By those who gave their very all
When asked to answer their country's call
That we at home in peace might live.
Then wear a poppy! Remember – and Give!

Don Crawford

****

Why did the apple pie go to the dentist?
Because it needed a filling.



Sudoko essentials - A mug of tea, pencil and rubber and your favourite tunes in the back ground.
Sitting at the kitchen table - A great way to keep your brain cells ticking over and relax.
Check you answers on page 16.

5	2				4			7
	3	9		8				
4	8	7	6					
7			2		6		4	1
9		1				3		2
8	4		3		1			
					2	7	1	8
				1		4	9	
6			9				3	5

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

Alcoholics Anonymous Ireland

Do you want another chance at life?

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting

Every Saturday 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Now meeting upstairs at
Whitehead Community Centre:
Call 02890 351222
www.alcoholicsanonymous .ie
All enquiries are treated in strictest confidence

Let us thank God each day for those who struggle to improve their lives, especially those who fight against addiction to alcohol or drugs.
Let us pray for those of their family and friends who have been affected by their addiction.

Cocaine Anonymous

Do you have a problem with drugs and Alcohol?

So did we.

Cocaine Anonymous meeting

Every Monday 8 pm - 9:15 pm
Oakfield Community Centre:
Oakfield Drive, Carrickfergus, BT38 7SP

Call 0330 043 2789 (8 am - 10 pm)
www.caireland.live

A poem for Remembrance day

The inquisitive mind of a child"



Why are they selling poppies, Mummy?
Selling poppies in town today.
The poppies, child, are flowers of love.
For the men who marched away.

But why have they chosen a poppy, Mummy?
Why not a beautiful rose?
Because my child, men fought and died
In the fields where the poppies grow.



But why are the poppies so red, Mummy?
Why are the poppies so red?
Red is the colour of blood, my child.
The blood that our soldiers shed.

The heart of the poppy is black, Mummy.
Why does it have to be black?
Black, my child, is the symbol of grief.
For the men who never came back.

But why, Mummy are you crying so?
Your tears are giving you pain.
My tears are my fears for you my child.
For the world is forgetting again.



Author Unknown

Editor: The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'

The Rectory

St James the Least



On what it takes to be an ordinand

My dear Nephew Darren
I was intrigued that you have been nurturing someone called Dave who is considering ordination. Since Dave had never travelled outside the city, your decision to send him to me was understandable. Sadly, I don't think he is cut out for the ministry.

We did our best. In a fit of hospitality, the Colonel invited this Dave to stay at the Lodge, and to join his Saturday pheasant shoot as a beater. But Dave said firmly that he was against beating any kind of bird and abhors all kinds of murder. It seems young Dave is a vegetarian! You might have warned us. The Colonel is now concerned that Dave is connected in some way with the Green Party. You cannot be too careful these days.

Then Miss Saxby and Miss Tarby stepped in. They enjoy mushrooming, and kindly took young Dave off to the woods. It is not their fault that they are a bit deaf and so did not hear his cries of distress when he lost them among all the trees. They just assumed he had gone back to the Colonel's, and so of course they did not organise a search party until much later. Fortunately, the church warden's spaniel has a keen nose and found Dave before midnight.

During all that time, Dave seemed to have had nothing better to do than slide about on fallen leaves and trip over hidden logs in the dark. He was even babbling about having heard a crying ghost. We feared he might be delirious but then realised he meant the local owl. He also seemed surprised by the darkness and asked how we manage without any streetlights at all in the parish. We explained the obvious - we simply follow the example of the well-refreshed when leaving the pub, and feel our way along the walls and found Dave before midnight.

On Sunday morning Dave rushed into the church to warn me that there were several loose sheep in the churchyard. I decided then that he should return to the safety of the city. There was no point in letting him near most of our church ladies, who would have savaged him on sight.

The visit only proves the obvious: potential ordinands should be carnivorous, cricketing fly-fishers, most at home in well-worn tweeds and preferably accompanied by a muddy dog. How else will they get along with normal folk?

Your loving uncle,

Eustace



Words and Actions



A simple Prayer for our Rector and his team



Heavenly Father

We pray for whatever Rector Mark needs to keep going in his multi-faceted role from the pulpit to maintenance across both churches.

From now to Christmas there is so much to do, help us to step up and help our Rector and Team in any way we can.

We remember Frances always there behind the scenes but with her own role in the church and in her work as a teacher.

We give we thanks that we benefit from both of the. Help us Lord to be mindful of their needs

Amen

Sudoko Answer

How did you get on?



5	2	6	1	3	4	9	8	7
1	3	9	7	8	5	6	2	4
4	8	7	6	2	9	1	5	3
7	5	3	2	9	6	8	4	1
9	6	1	4	5	8	3	7	2
8	4	2	3	7	1	5	6	9
3	9	4	5	6	2	7	1	8
2	7	5	8	1	3	4	9	6
6	1	8	9	4	7	2	3	5

The Day Though Gavest Lord has ended
History behind the Hymn

I chose this hymn for this month as it is often sung at Remembrance Sunday services and funerals. I find is beautiful and comforting.

"The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended;
The darkness falls at thy behest;
To thee our morning hymns ascended;
Thy praise shall hallow now our rest."
Written by John Ellerton

Evening offices, or Evensong in the Anglican Church, were times to thank God for the light and blessings of the day and request rest and safety throughout the night. Sleep was seen as a state of being that could be a transition to death.

John Ellerton (1826-1893) was a priest in the Church of England and a significant Victorian hymn writer. His early hymns were for children. In addition, he made contributions as one of the editors of the influential Hymns Ancient and Modern.

This hymn was written for A Liturgy for Missionary Meetings (1870). It was then revised slightly and published the following year in Church Hymns and Tunes under the heading "Their office was to stand every morning to thank and praise the Lord, and likewise at even" (I Chronicles. 23:30).

In the 1889 Supplement to the second edition of Hymns Ancient and Modern (1875), this hymn was associated with Psalm 113:3: "From the rising of the sun until the going down

of the same the Lord's name is to be praised." The genius of the author is in his effective use of the metaphor of the rising and setting sun which not only frames each day as a universal phenomenon, but also frames all of time—from the Creator of light and dark at the initial act of creation in Genesis to the time when all Christendom will stand before the throne singing 'Blessing, honor, and glory and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.'"

One of the leading hymn writers of his era, Ellerton has carefully crafted a prayer of thanksgiving for the expansion of the church around the world so that "the voice of prayer is never silent, nor dies the strains of praise away". Carlton Young, editor of The UM Hymnal, notes that this hymn "is also an expression of late-nineteenth-century British Victorian military and cultural imperialism that could not have been written in any other time and sung in any other church."

Erik Routley, eminent 20th-century British hymnologist, observes that this missionary hymn celebrated the expansion of the church as the British Empire also expanded. "'An empire on which the sun never sets' is precisely the thought that is here adapted to Christian use. Routley traces the immense popularity of the hymn to Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee in 1897, which celebrated the many accomplishments of England during the Queen's reign.

J.R. Watson offers a more biblical approach. The hymn "begins with Genesis [1:3-4] and ends with Revelation [5:13]. The final line of the last verse expresses the promise of life eternal.

Dr. Hawn is professor of sacred music at Perkins School of Theology.

The Day Thou Gavest

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended;
The darkness falls at Thy behest;
To Thee our morning hymns ascended,
Thy praise shall sanctify our rest.

We thank Thee that Thy church unsleeping,
While earth rolls onward into light,
Through all the world her watch is keeping,
And rests not now by day or night.

As o'er each continent and island
The dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent,
Nor dies the strain of praise away.

The sun that bids us rest is waking
Our brethren 'neath the western sky,
And hour by hour fresh lips are making
Thy wondrous doings heard on high.

So be it, Lord! Thy throne shall never,
Like earth's proud empires, pass away;
Thy kingdom stands, and grows for ever,
Till all Thy creatures own Thy sway.




St Patrick's Church Hall
Edward Road, Whitehead
Victorian Christmas Bazaar
Saturday 29th November 2025
From 12 noon -4pm
Wide range of indoor stalls
Childrens Books & Toys
Christmas Gifts
Crafts
Tombola & Ballot
Homemade Cakes Stall & More
Sit Down Refreshments Teas & cakes
until 3.30pm
Reg Charity No NIC102649
Proceeds will support the work of the church in the community

St Patrick's Church of Ireland

Parochial Hall, Edward Road, Whitehead

Victorian Christmas Bazaar



Can you help us?

We urgently need unwanted birthday or Christmas gifts, for our Tombola & Gifts Stall.

Tombola prizes must be NEW, such as Bottles of drink, Sweets, Chocolates, novelties, Gadgets.

Also we need Children's Books, Games & Toys in good condition. No soft toys however.

Can you spare an hour on a stall, can you help tidy up at the end or help server refreshments

Bakers we need cakes, tray bakes. scones, for the cake stand and refreshments.

These would be needed Fri. 28th or early Sat. 29th

All other items (non-perishable) can be left in church or given to a member of the vestry

If you would like information or wish to set up a stall for a nominal fee contact Priscilla tel. 07787561517 or Janet 07581031915

extern

Community in Transition
Larne and Carrick

Opening of the Therapeutic Walled Garden

Drumalis Retreat & Conference Centre
Friday 7th November

Join us in the beautiful, peaceful setting of Drumalis as we celebrate the opening of our new Therapeutic Walled Garden – a space for wellbeing, connection, and growth.

Drop-In (12-2pm)
Enjoy delicious food, take a walk around the stunning grounds, and visit the Walled Garden to hear about our vision and see the renovations so far.

Evening Gathering (6-8pm)
Join us in the garden for soup, crafts, and conversation in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere.

Please complete the form to register
https://forms.office.com/e/aNSkCVXqX1

Sandra - I was just thinking

Have you noticed that there have been quite a lot of funerals recently? Or maybe it's only me but three of my friends have become widows this year and it has lead me to ponder about what the Bible says on this subject.

"But let me tell you something wonderful, a mystery I'll probably never fully understand. We're not all going to die – but we are all going to be changed. You hear a blast to end all blasts from a trumpet, and in the time that you look up and blink your eyes – it's over. On signal from that trumpet from heaven, the dead will rise up and out of their graves, beyond the reach of death, never to die again. At the same moment and in the same way, we'll all be changed. In the resurrection scheme of things, this has to happen: everything perishable taken off the shelves and replaced by the imperishable, this mortal replaced by the immortal.
Then the saying will come true:
Death swallowed by triumphant Life!
Who got the last word, oh Death?
Oh, Death, who's afraid of you now?
It was sin that made death so frightening and law-code guilt that gave sin its leverage, its destructive power. But now in a single victorious stroke of life, all three- sin, guilt, death – are gone, the gift of our Master, Jesus Christ. Thank God!

With all this going for us, my dear, dear friends, stand your ground. And don't hold back. Throw yourselves into the work of the Master, confident that nothing you do for Him is a waste of time or effort."
(1 Cor. V51-58 "The Message version in contemporary language" Eugene H. Peterson)

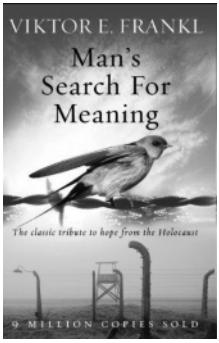
Earlier on in the passage, Paul uses the imagery of planting a seed. (V 42 -44)
"You plant a dead seed, soon there is a flourishing plant. There is no visible likeness between seed and plant. You would never guess what a

tomato would look like from its seed. The dead body that we bury in the ground and the resurrection body that come from it will be dramatically different."

And so, as Christians, this is what we believe. After the very real pain of losing someone we love, we can ponder on where they go. We celebrate their life and look forward to a new creation. I can't help thinking that we don't often share this truth with each other often enough.
Thank you Sandra for sharing your hopeful thoughts of life ever after



A Story of Hope from a Holocaust Survivor



Victor Frankl was a Holocaust survivor. He endured the horrors of Auschwitz, an experience giving Man's Search for Meaning greater significance that other books on psychology or philosophy can claim. His reflections on suffering, resilience, and the human spirit are not abstract. They were forged and tested in the crucible of one of history's darkest moments. And yet, his message is consistently one of hope and has changed so many lives worldwide.

Man's Search for Meaning goes beyond survival it's an exploration of what makes life worth living. Examples of key learning from Frankl's work- • Beauty brings surprising meaning, especially in difficult circumstances. A violin playing during unimaginable suffering can reconnect us to hope, to memory, to love. In darkness, beauty has power. Beauty reminds us we are not alone. • A future vision and purpose gives life significance. When we lose sight of tomorrow, life becomes unbearable. Meaning requires us to think forward. The ability to endure hardship is intrinsic to a future hope. Over 16 million copies sold in over 50 languages. There are more lessons to learn - Well worth a read, check out if you can get a library copy. I listened to the audio version.

Fancy a little mindful colouring in to relax for a little while



VICTORIANA FLORAL







The Language of Flowers

- At Victoriana Floral we offer unique and individual floral arrangements for weddings, events and special occasions when you just want to show someone you care.
- With unsurpassed attention to detail, we are one of the Antrim Coast's more sought- after florists.
- Kim Davies the Creative Director offers a comprehensive floral service from her home studio in Magheramorne for you to enjoy.
- Contact Kim for all your floral needs: for weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, farewells, tributes, as well as for Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, and Easter.
- Delivering to doorsteps in the local area .

To place an order or to make enquiries contact Kim or visit her website

Phone 07740721799.

Website: www.victorianafloral.com

Lighthouse YARNS



Lighthouse Yarns is a luxury high-end wool shop, housed in the old part of The Bank House, in Whitehead. A treasure trove for anyone who loves Yarn, Knitted goods, Crafting, Sewing & Haberdashery. We offer a wide range of brands - from hip Hand-Dyed, locally spun skeins, to traditional brands... Cashmere, Marino, Recycled, Lambswool... you will find something special and unique for any project. Lighthouse Yarns also stocks a lovely selection of Gifts, Patterns, Accessories and Kids Crafts.

The social power of Crafting and Knitting, and it's ability to bring people together, is something that owner, and keen crafter Louise Williamson holds at the heart of her business. Lighthouse Yarns runs many classes and events. Call in, to find out what we're working on now!

Email enquiries to lighthouseyarns@yahoo.com

12 Edward Road, Whitehead BT38 9QB Tel: 02893 372888



ISLAND MILL
TILES & FLOORING

We're a family business based in Islandmagee and our speciality and passion is tiling and flooring.

We stock a broad range of wall and floor tiles for home or commercial space. Whether you want porcelain tiles that look like wood or natural stone, laminate flooring that emulates tiles, luxury vinyl tiles (LVT) that mimic both; all in classical, traditional and modern designs, you will find them all at Island Mill.

Ordering is simple, with goods ready for collection usually within a few days. Local delivery can be arranged free of charge. Call us or visit our website today



13 Lough Road Islandmagee, BT40 3RA
0289 335 3335
info@islandmill.co.uk
Website: islandmill.co.uk

SPAR

There for you

Shop at the 'Wright' Place!
15 Kings Road, Whitehead. BT38 9PU

Spar always there for all your daily essentials.

We're a friendly neighbourhood store, convenient and always open when you need us.

Free delivery service Tel : 028 9337 2344

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING



in St Patrick's church Hall

SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER
2.00 pm



All welcome, no experience necessary.

All materials provided just bring pair of scissors or secateurs.



Cost £30

Please book with

Judith.

07855736510

Look forward to

seeing you.



"Goodness! is it time for Christmas Fair organising, carol service planning and nativity play rehearsals already?!"

TWEEDIE PIES
HOME BAKERY

Tweedie Pies Home Bakery

28a Kings Road, Whitehead

To place an order call 028 9337 2429

Jason Tweedie and his team extend a warm welcome to new & existing customers
Traditional home bakery with freshly baked breads, buns, cakes , hot snacks and pies everyday.

At Tweedie Pies Home Bakery, all our breads and produce are freshly made in store each day and we are continually dedicated to supporting our community.

Orders taken for parties or celebrations

Lilyscape at Whitehead

NI Tourism Certified

Lilyscape is a modern, fully equipped self catering apartment, perfect for couples, small families and commuters wanting to stay in the area.
The apartment is nestled in the heart of Whitehead. Close to Gobbins Path, Whitehead Railway Museum and Carrickfergus Castle. Being close to local amenities and transport links makes for the perfect stay and easily accessible on foot.

A great place for family & friends to stay on their visit

For more details find us on Airbnb @lilyscape or Tel 075 1146 1691
Facebook & Instagram @lilyscape Whitehead

HOME FARM MEATS
McMASTER'S
BUTCHERS

Beef, Poultry, Lamb, Pork Roasts and Barbecue Meats

Order now from your local family run butchers in Whitehead

McMaster's Homefarm Meats believes that great tasting meat begins with naturally fed, hormone free animals that are bred on our farm just minutes from our shop in a healthy, natural free-range environment.



34 King's Road. Whitehead BT38 9PT Tel: 028 9335 3313

Thank You, from Whitehead Storehouse

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to Whitehead Storehouse at our joint Harvest services. The food items you generously supplied have been carefully sorted and stored in date order. They will be put to good use. We also appreciate the gifts of toiletries. Some parents go without such 'luxuries' to ensure that their children, especially teenagers, can go into the world without fear of embarrassment.

Our clients vary from families to people of all ages living alone. Some have poor health or disability. Many are just getting by when something unexpected tips the balance into a crisis. Others normally doing well in life, experience events or illness which triggers an immediate crisis with short, or longer, term consequences. We are happy to help where we can, sometimes more than once where circumstances dictate the need, but ever mindful that we must manage our resources responsibly. It is especially pleasing when a client makes contact at a later date to offer a donation to benefit others, prompted by gratitude for the help they were given. It is so encouraging to know that we contributed to them getting back on their feet.

As usual, we had fewer requests over the summer months, but despite this we had been noticing an increasing number of bare spots on the shelves! As the weather grows colder with heating and electricity bills adding pressure to limited budgets, we expect a growing number of requests over the coming months, so you can see that your help is very timely. We are nicely set up now for winter!

Please remember, if you know of someone who is struggling financially do encourage them to get in touch. People are often reluctant to seek help, but a crisis can befall anyone. Be assured that we hold contact details and any shared information in strictest confidence.

Scotty
Geraldine Scott-Heyes
Church of Ireland United Parish Storehouse Rep.
24th October 2025

Inez's Scone Recipe - No they're Rock Buns Janet!

8 ounces of Soda Bread flour **3 ounces sugar**

3 ounces of Sultanas **4 ounces of margarine**

1 beaten egg **Enough milk to bind**

****

Rub the margarine into the flour to form crumbs

Fold in all dry ingredients

Gradually bring the mixture together with the beaten egg and milk to a dropping consistency and not a dough.

Place heaped desert spoon of the mixture into the paper cases in bun tray

Bake in preheated over 180 degree for 10 - 15 minute

When cool remove from bun case split and serve with butter and raspberry jam

Thank you Inez for baking these delicious rock buns which we often enjoy after church and other times

0800 804 8044
DailyHOPE
A free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

Balmoral Estates

ESTATE AGENTS * VALUERS * SURVEYORS

Sales, Rentals, Commercial Sales, Commercial Lettings

Based in Whitehead for over 25 years, Balmoral Estates is a family-owned Estate Agency offering a professional & friendly service in the sale of residential property in the Whitehead and East Antrim area.

FOR SALE

VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT

Balmoral Estates
Whitehead

028 9337 3215

www.balmoralestates.co.uk

27 Balmoral Avenue, Whitehead. Co. Antrim BT38 9QD. Enquiries@balmoralestates.co.uk

Tweeds



We've been the first choice for Home Heating oil, Coal & Solid Fuels and Calor Gas in Co. Antrim for over 70 years.

Plus new home and garden range of furniture, outdoor cooking, heating equipment & accessories + more in our showroom. See our website

8A Portmuck Road, Islandmagee, Larne, BT40 3TW. **Tel: 028 9338 2502.**
Website: **Tweeds.co.uk.** Email orders@ tweedfuels.co.uk

SALES & SERVICE

JACK REID

CARS

QUALITY & CHOICE

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

If you want the best, you are in the right place! We are a family run business bringing you only the best cars.

SALES & SERVICING AT COMPETITIVE PRICES

111 Belfast Road
Whitehead
Carrickfergus BT38 9SU

Tel: 02893 373 600

www.jackreidcars.co.uk





We would love to see you.
Why not join us at 10.30am on Sunday

You Are Welcome Here

No matter:

- Where you've come from or are going;
- What you believe or doubt;
- What you are feeling or just not feeling;
- What you have or don't have; and
- No matter whom you love!

CHANGING ATTITUDE IRELAND

Fosters Fruit & Flowers

15 Kings Road, Whitehead

For a wide range of personally selected Fruit & Vegetables

Fresh Cut Flowers and Fruit Baskets made to Order

Tel : 93372755 for orders

Free delivery in town

STEPHEN HENDERSON JOINERY



Domestic & Commercial

Qualified

All Interior & Exterior Joinery

General Building Maintenance

Roofs, First & Second Fix, Decking,
Stair Refurbishments, Bespoke Projects

Tel: 028 9338 2868

Mob: 077 1774 5369



WHITEHEAD HOME & HARDWARE STORE - Tel 028 9337 2656

Open Mon-Sat 9am-5.20pm We stock just about everything you may need!

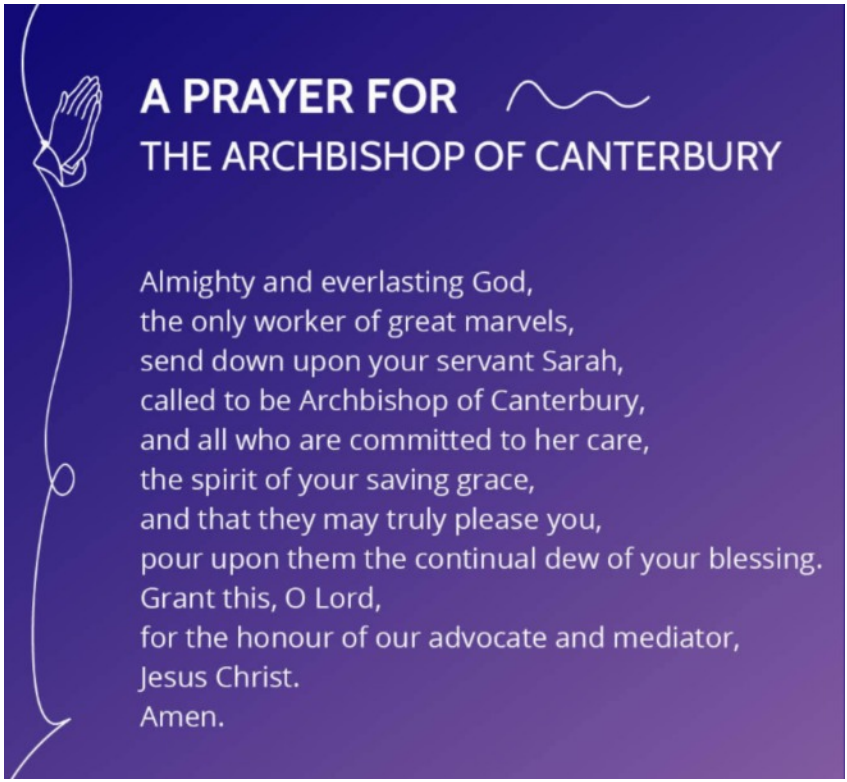
Tools, paint, pet supplies, stationery & cards, fire grates & wood, batteries, key cutting service & so much more

16 Balmoral Avenue, Carrickfergus, County Antrim, BT38 9QD. Email: hugh@anythinggoesni.com



The Diocese of Oxford welcomes and encourage us to pray for Sarah the New Archbishop of Canterbury

"This is an historic announcement for the Church of England and for the Anglican Communion. I warmly commend our Archbishop of Canterbury-designate Dame Sarah Mullaly and her family to the prayers and affections of the Diocese of Oxford. "Sarah will bring proven wisdom, love, dedication and vision to her new role. Please do pray for Bishop Sarah as she seeks to draw the nation, the Anglican communion and the Church of England into a deeper love of God and a stronger love of neighbour."



Brasso Club

Keeping our brasses in tip top shape

This small, merry band meets on the third Thursday of each month at 10 am, (20th Nov.) usually for an hour or so. New folks are welcome to join the chat and the cleaning. We aim to keep the shiny things in Church bright and beautiful!

Enter at the front of the Church by the smaller door on the right-hand side. Cleaning supplies are provided but if you can, bring rubber gloves, cloths, and an old tooth-brush for little corners! Thank you for all you do.

Youth Fellowship Sunday Brunch

We meet next on 2nd November and continue on the first Sunday of every month. We're really looking forward to seeing everyone again. We'd also love to see some new members. Anyone of secondary school age or young adult under 25 is welcome to join us. We take part in the first few minutes of the service in St Patrick's at 10.30 before moving into the hall for Bible study, prayer, games and fun. If you want to find out more, please come along or contact Stephen Martin (stepheneddu@gmail.com).

Church Activities

Together in Faith Group

The first and third Wednesday of the month

(5th and 19th November ay 7.30 pm)
Meet in the Boucher Room, Parochial Hall at St Patrick's Church.

Book Club

Book Club meets on the last Wednesday of the month

27th November at 7.30 pm
(Contact Paddy Rodgers tel 07720 404071)

Wednesday Morning Fellowship Group

Second Wednesday in the month

Next meeting 12th November
in the Boucher Room 11am.
We start with tea, coffee, biscuits, rock cakes and chat from 10.30am
New members welcome.

Circus Skills Class

Come along and try some light exercise and may be learn a few manual dexterity skills
Tuesdays @ 10.30am - Parochial Hall

Indoor Bowling Club

Tuesdays from 7pm - Parochial Hall
New members welcome to join in all the groups

Parish Announcements

The Select Vestry meeting

WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER at 7pm
in St Patricks Church, Boucher Room.

Counters for November

02/11/2025 Trevor Peoples
09/11/2025 Bert Thompson
16/11/2025 Sandra Thompson
23/11/2025 Valerie Kincaid
30/11/2025 Colin de Fleury

Refreshments Rota

2/11/25 Joan Mckinney
9/11/25 no refreshment (Remembrance Sunday)
16/11/25 Janet Foster
23/11/25 Judith de Fleury
30/11/25 Heather Cupples
Refreshments coordinator Priscilla Carlisle
Tel 07787561517

Game On Meeting

Meeting in the Library on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month 12th and the 26th Nov, at 1.30 pm.
Some members play Mexican Train, others played Backgammon.
New participants always welcome. Come and join us for Tea and biscuits, even if you don't want to play.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Giving thinks for Church Matters, our church magazine

One year ago, with Jo's help I started to edit the magazine, using her template one. I have continued to put this little magazine together. I am so pleased with the many contributions to the magazine and for the important feedback about what the magazine means not just to us. but others in our community. Church magazines are very rare these days and I am glad it means more than I realised. With your input I have been able to bring together the letter from the Rector; Poems; Prayers; Recipes; stories behind favourite hymns; memories about our church; stories of hope from our troubled world; some fun stuff; who is who, contacts, what's on in our churches; local community adverts and more. Please keep your contributions coming. I am keen to include more local events e.g., choirs, concerts, work-shops going on Carrickfergus, Whitehead and Island Magee. I hear about great events, often too late for the magazine, so keep in mind what's on and let me know. Keep those memories of church coming.

This magazine has helped me overcome shyness as a relatively new member of the church. I now feel very much part of the community of both churches. I wish I could remember everyone's names, maybe that will come in time. So thank you dear Jo for encouraging me and for all you continue to do for us. We send you and Jean love and blessings galore and pray you find your new ginger cat soon.

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH

Rector: Revd Canon Mark Taylor,

72 Riverforde T: 028 9337 3300 E: mark205@btinternet.com

Mobile: 07719 619286

Facebook: St Patrick's & St Johns Whitehead & Islandmagee
Twitter: @Whitehead_CoI
Email: churchofirelandwhitehead@gmail.com
Website: **www.whitehead-islandmagee-parish.co.uk**

CHURCHWARDENS

	St. Patrick's	**St. John's**
Rector's:	Colin De Fleury	Alan Hayward
People's:	Mabel Allen	John Hall

GLEBEWARDENS

St. Patrick's - Trevor Peoples St. John's - Jim Reid

SELECT VESTRY (includes Churchwardens & Glebewardens)

Geradine Scott-Heyes Hon Secretary 07702431610
Sandra Thompson - Hon Treasurer 07912478331
Ann Mulholland; Bill Pollock;;
Priscilla Carlisle; Pauline Riddle; Paul Heyes;
Janet Matthews; David Young; Terry Waugh;
Inez Moore Austin Jenkins - Graveyard Manager St John's

Messy Church

in the Parochial Hall on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m.
Contact the Rector if you plan to come.

Youth Fellowship Leader

Stephen Martin - stepheneddu@gmail.com

Safeguarding Trust Evelyn Powers 9337 2535 Valerie Kincaid 07909 545651

Flowers: St Patrick's: - Judith de Fleury 07855736510
St .John's: - Ann Thompson 9338 2295

FWO & Gift Aid Sec: Sandra Thompson 07912478331

Distributors: C of I Gazette: David Robinson 9338248
Church Matters Magazine : Valerie Kincaid 07909 545651

Editorial communications - to: Janet Matthews
jem.matthews2@gmail.com or tel. WhatsApp 07581031915,

Registered with NI Charity Commission NIC102649



Woman's aid collection for Christmas

This year they would like gift vouchers from Tescos, Sainsburys, Boots, or any local stores. So when you're doing your shopping pick up a voucher.

Bring it to church any Sunday from now for collection the Monday 1st December.

+ or Janet will be happy to take them.